

OUTGOING  
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# Department of State

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Page 1 of P

NO.

SENT TO: Amembassy PARIS G-609  
" BONN G-370  
" LONDON G-550

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, THURSTON AND USRO; ALSO PASS WEST

- References: 1. SHAPE letter AG 1210 PANDP November 21, 1958;  
2. POLTO A-431, rptd info Bonn POLTO A-40, London POLTO A-  
3. BONN G-412 and G-422, rptd G-Ann Paris and London.

State-Defense message.

German Alerts.

We agree conference this matter could result in progress. Before definite plans for such conference are made and further steps to this effect taken, however, we believe consideration should be given to following points:

1. SHAPE message referred to above was not RPT not addressed to Germans and in discussions which have taken place concerning proposed conference, question has not RPT not apparently been raised or necessity for ascertaining German attitude towards participation. We believe that Germans should be consulted soonest as to (a) whether they would agree that conference of this sort is desirable and (b) what they consider agenda should be. We have no RPT no preference as to whether this consultation should be instigated by Three Powers or by SHAPE.

2. Reasons for past failures to make progress on vital question these alerts do not RPT not appear capable of easy resolution in near future. Political situation within Germany not RPT not encouraging for expectations of early passage necessary legislation by Germans. Three Powers' possession of legal rights to take necessary measures does not RPT not resolve practical problem of how means are to be found to transfer to German Government authority needed for practical implementation of alert measures. In this connection it will be recalled that in November 1957 (Bonn telegram 1712 of November 29, 1957) Germans rejected idea of their acting as agent for Three Powers in necessary implementing measures and stated that they preferred draft necessary regulations themselves.

3. Therefore it would appear essential that all participants in conference be prepared to put forward concrete proposals for resolving these

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these problems. Consideration should also be given as to whether Three Powers should first agree among themselves as to what they consider acceptable means and timing of transfer to Germans of their authority to implement these measures.

4. We are not RPT not seriously concerned by question aegis under which conference should be held. By addressing letters to Three Powers SHAPE has in effect taken initiative in calling conference and we can see following advantages in SHAPE's continuing lead in this matter: (a) Use of SHAPE's prestige to impress on Germans serious military situation resulting from absence these alert measures; (b) Creation of situation in which SHAPE would be asking all participants for advance on this question rather than putting Germans in position of "answering" to Three Powers concerning lack of progress to date and steps to be taken in future.

5. Present situation points up great desirability rapidly moving forward on this matter. We would appreciate urgently Ambassador Bruce's advice as to how we should proceed in this matter and his comments as well as those of other addressees on foregoing points. We will then reply officialy to SHAPE's request.

*Dulles*  
*(OK)*

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